

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 157

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to recognize Mark Watson on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their careers; and

WHEREAS, Mark Watson is one such estimable person, who has served with distinction for over twelve years as the city manager of Oak Ridge and is taking his much-deserved retirement on May 5, 2023; and

WHEREAS, with more than forty-seven years of experience, Mr. Watson is a dedicated public servant who has sought the good of his community wherever he has worked; he has a vast career that spans eight cities and four states, having served alongside with more than 100 city council members over his lifetime; and

WHEREAS, he has accomplished tremendous civil improvement during his tenure with the City of Oak Ridge, including the redevelopment of the former Oak Ridge Mall as Main Street Oak Ridge, the removal of the dilapidated Applewood Apartments, the creation of new residential developments, the relocation of the American Museum of Science and Energy, the construction of a new water plant, the replacement of the roofing of various city buildings, improvements to infrastructure, the renovation of Cedar Hill Park, , and the modernization of the library; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Watson intends to spend his retirement with his beloved wife, Jenna, and his children and grandchildren, enjoying the fruits of his labor with those he cherishes most; and

WHEREAS, Mark Watson exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Mark Watson has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues and community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to Mark Watson our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.